

In July 2005, ASEAN forced Burma to forgo its scheduled rotation as chairman of the organization.

On December 16, 2005, the U.N. Security Council debated the situation in Burma for the first time.

Next week, United Nations Undersecretary for Political Affairs will brief members of the Security Council on his meeting with Suu Kyi, her first meeting with a foreigner since 2004.

Why would we turn back now when the military junta is increasingly isolated and the plight of the Burmese people is on the agenda of the international community?

Indeed, while we are far from our goal of a free and democratic Burma, we are making progress and we should stay the course.

I remind my colleagues that under the provisions of this legislation, we will have the opportunity to debate sanctions on Burma every year. That is how it should be.

Sanctions are not a panacea for every foreign policy dispute. But, when they are backed by a robust international response, they can be effective and they can compel change.

Archbishop Desmond Tutu has rightly said, "As long as [Suu Kyi] remains under house arrest, not one of us is truly free".

Today I urge the SPDC to release Aung San Suu Kyi, recognize the 1990 elections, and engage in a true dialogue with the National League for Democracy.

I urge the United Nations Security Council to debate and pass a binding, non-punitive resolution on Burma that recognizes the threat the regime poses to the region and calls for Suu Kyi and all prisoners of conscience to be released.

And, finally, I urge United States Senate to renew the sanctions on Burma for another year.

#### SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 496—COMMENDING THE KANSAS CITY KANSAS COMMUNITY COLLEGE DEBATE TEAM FOR THEIR NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP VICTORIES

Mr. BROWNBACK (for himself and Mr. ROBERTS) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 496

Whereas, in 2006, the Kansas City Kansas Community College debate team won, for a third consecutive year, the 3 national championships in collegiate debate among community colleges;

Whereas the team won a third consecutive national championship at the Phi Rho Pi national tournament for community colleges in 2006;

Whereas, at the 2006 Phi Rho Pi national tournament for community colleges, the team achieved more debate victories per tournament than any other team in the esteemed history of the tournament;

Whereas the team won championship awards in the Policy Team Debate, Lincoln-Douglas Debate, and Overall Sweepstakes at the Phi Rho Pi national tournament for community colleges in 2006;

Whereas the team won a third consecutive national championship for community colleges at the Cross Examination Debate Association National Tournament in 2006; and

Whereas the State of Kansas is privileged to benefit from the dedication to education and intercollegiate debate of Kansas City Kansas Community College team head coach Darren Elliot, assistant coaches Skippy Flynn and Adrian Self, and team members Ashley-Michelle Bruce, Ryan Coyne, Clay Crockett, Peter Lawson, Candace Moore, Amanda Montee, Deandre Tolbert, and Garrett Tuck: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(1) commends the extraordinary contributions of the Kansas City Kansas Community College debate team to the city of Kansas City, Kansas, and the State of Kansas;

(2) congratulates the team for their national championship victories; and

(3) offers its best wishes to the team for future success.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 497—RELATIVE TO THE DEATH OF EDWARD ROY BECKER, CHIEF JUDGE OF THE COURT OF APPEALS FOR THE 3RD CIRCUIT

Mr. SPECTER (for himself, Mr. LEAHY, and Mr. HATCH) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

S. RES. 497

Whereas Edward Roy Becker was born on May 4, 1933, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania;

Whereas Edward Roy Becker enjoyed an extraordinary career as a leading jurist in the United States;

Whereas Edward Roy Becker graduated Phi Beta Kappa from the University of Pennsylvania in 1954 and received his law degree from Yale Law School in 1957 with academic distinction;

Whereas, following his graduation from law school, Edward Roy Becker managed a distinguished law practice at the partnership of Becker, Becker, and Fryman with his father and brother-in-law;

Whereas Edward Roy Becker was active in politics, and followed his father as a Republican committeeman;

Whereas, at the age of 37, Edward Roy Becker was appointed to the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania in 1970, was then elevated to the Court of Appeals for the 3rd Circuit in 1982, was Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals for the 3rd Circuit from February 1998 until May 2003, and served as a Senior Judge until his passing on May 19, 2006;

Whereas, while serving as Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals for the 3rd Circuit, Edward Roy Becker authored many innovative and important opinions;

Whereas, in 2002, Edward Roy Becker received the coveted Edward J. Devitt Distinguished Service to Justice Award after being selected as the most distinguished Article III Judge in the United States "whose career has been exemplary, measured by [his] significant contributions to the administration of justice, the advancement of the rule of law, and the improvement of society as a whole";

Whereas, among his landmark decisions, the Supreme Court adopted 3 opinions rendered by Edward Roy Becker relating to cutting-edge issues, including the reliability of scientific evidence, the rationale of class ac-

tion certification, and the standards of review relating to the Employee Retirement Income Security Act;

Whereas the University of Chicago Law Review has consistently recognized Edward Roy Becker as among the 3 circuit judges who are most often cited by the Supreme Court;

Whereas Edward Roy Becker handed down approximately 2,000 judicial opinions;

Whereas Edward Roy Becker devoted countless hours and a tremendous amount of effort for almost 3 years as an assistant to the Senate in drafting asbestos reform legislation, writing most of S. 852 (109th Congress) (commonly referred to as the "Fairness in Asbestos Injury Resolution Act of 2005"), and holding over 50 meetings in Washington, D.C., with stakeholders and Senators;

Whereas President George W. Bush inscribed a tribute to Edward Roy Becker on the face of S. 852 (109th Congress) by designating it as the "Becker Bill"; and

Whereas Edward Roy Becker undertook that arduous extra assignment in addition to his judicial duties, all while undergoing treatment for prostate cancer: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate—

(a) honors the life and accomplishments of Edward Roy Becker; and

(b) extends its condolences to the family and friends of Edward Roy Becker.

#### SENATE RESOLUTION 498—DESIGNATING THE WEEK BEGINNING MAY 21, 2006, AS "NATIONAL HURRICANE PREPAREDNESS WEEK"

Mr. VITTER (for himself, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. SHELBY, and Mr. LOTT) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 498

Whereas the President has proclaimed that the week beginning May 21, 2006, shall be known as "National Hurricane Preparedness Week", and has called on government agencies, private organizations, schools, media, and residents in the coastal areas of the United States to share information about hurricane preparedness and response to help save lives and protect communities;

Whereas the official Atlantic hurricane season occurs from a period beginning June 1, 2006, and ending November 30, 2006;

Whereas hurricanes are among the most powerful forces of nature, causing destructive winds, tornadoes, floods, and storm surges that can result in numerous fatalities and cost billions of dollars in damage;

Whereas, in 2005, a record-setting Atlantic hurricane season caused 28 storms, including 15 hurricanes, of which 7 were major hurricanes, including Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, and Wilma;

Whereas the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration has predicted that between 13 to 16 storms will occur during the 2006 Atlantic hurricane season, with between 8 to 10 storms becoming hurricanes, of which between 4 to 6 storms could become major hurricanes of Category 3 strength or higher;

Whereas the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration reports that over 50 percent of the population of the United States lives in coastal counties that are vulnerable to the dangers of hurricanes;

Whereas, because the impact from hurricanes extends well beyond coastal areas, it is vital for individuals in hurricane prone areas to prepare in advance of the hurricane season;